

MONTANA BEST BEGINNINGS ADVISORY COUNCIL



WHERE HAVE WE BEEN
WHERE ARE WE NOW
WHERE ARE WE GOING



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Overview

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 - Goal of Montana's Best Beginnings Advisory Council
 - Decision Making
- **Purpose**
 - Strategic goal
- **Guiding Principles**
- **Current Structure**
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History

Creation of Montana's Best Beginnings Advisory Council

- The Montana Best Beginnings Advisory Council was formed in 2011 as a successor to the Montana Early Childhood Advisory Council in compliance with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.
- The Agency Order establishing the Best Beginnings Advisory Council under MCA 2-15-122 was signed by Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services Director Anna Whiting Sorrell on June 23, 2011, and by Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer on June 28, 2011.

Goal of Montana's Best Beginnings Advisory Council

- The Best Beginnings Advisory Council will serve as the comprehensive early childhood advisory council and will serve as the collaborating entity for the early childhood system.
- The Advisory Council will also serve as the connector, especially through key appointments and staff to the council, to the Governor's Office subcabinet, the DPPHS branch management structure, and other early childhood work groups.

Decision Making

- No fewer than 30 voting members appointed by DPHHS Director
- Ex-officio non-voting members
- Consensus

Purpose

Strategic Goal

Montana shall have a comprehensive, coordinated early childhood system that provides a governance structure and leads to strong collaboration in order to best meet the needs of Montana's youngest citizens, and includes four system principal objectives:

1. Children have access to high quality Early Childhood Programs.
2. Families with young children are supported in their community.
3. Children have access to a medical home and health insurance.
4. Social, emotional, and mental health needs of young children and families are supported.



Guiding Principles



Best Beginnings Advisory Council Guiding Principles

- All families can benefit from education and support.
- All parents are in the process of developing their skills and abilities as parents.
- A diverse approach to service delivery must be innovative, empowering, and inclusive.
- Every child deserves to have quality early childhood experiences.
- Accessible and appropriate health care is a crucial component of an Early Childhood Comprehensive System (ECCS).
- An ECCS must have poverty reduction, economic development and job skills training as core components.
- The private sector must be included and encouraged to become a key partner in ECCS development.
- Community provides supporting environments for families.
- Services must be linked for maximum effectiveness.

Current Structure

Committees

- Professional Development
 - Chair: Libby Hancock
- High Quality Early Care and Education
 - Chair: Rhonda Schwenke
- Family Support
 - Chairs: Kelly Hart & Caitlin Jensen
- Health
 - Chair: Shelly Meyer
- Social, Emotional, Mental Health
 - Chair: Christy Hill-Larson
- Strategic Communication, Outreach and Public Awareness
 - Chair: Sara Groves

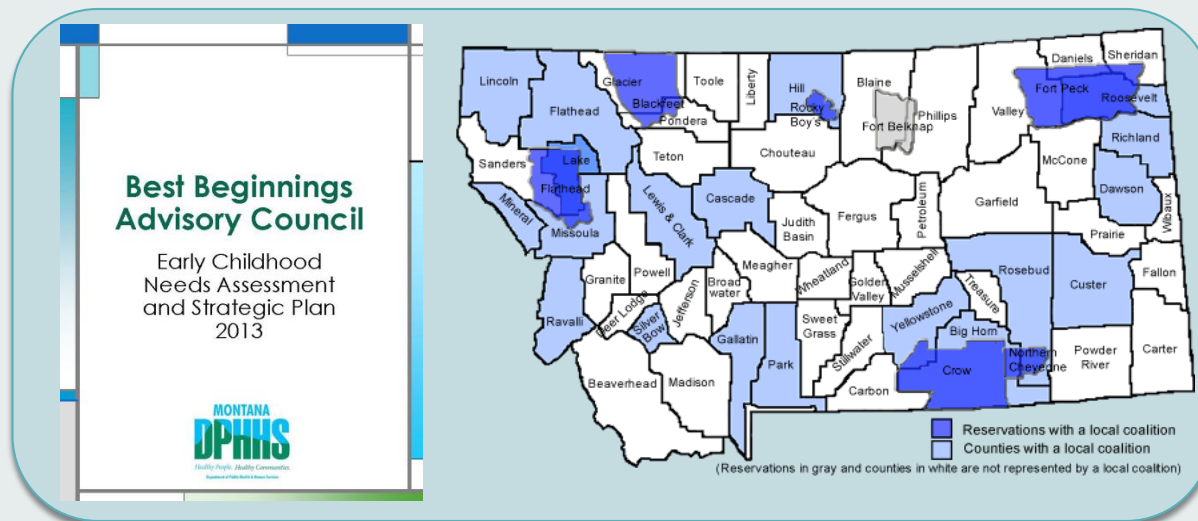
DPHHS Leadership

- Jamie Palagi, Human and Community Services Division Administrator
- Sarah Corbally, Child and Family Services Division Administrator
- Lindsey Krywaruchka, Public Health and Safety Division Interim Administrator
- Rebecca de Camara, Developmental Services Division Administrator
- Patty Butler, Early Childhood Services Bureau Chief
- Larry Wilkerson, Best Beginnings Advisory Council Coordinator

Accomplishments

- Establishment of 7 Charter Best Beginnings Local Coalitions
- Establishment of 16 Expansion Best Beginnings Local Coalitions
- Establishment of 6 Standing Committees
- Resource to Legislators and Governor's Office on Early Childhood Issues and Policy
- Development of the Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan
- Revisions to the BBAC website

<http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/childcare/bestbeginnings/bbac/>



Other States' Structures

State	Council Name	Designated State Agency	Members	Committees	Projects Tasked
Arizona	Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board	Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board	12 on state board 341 on regional councils	4	Needs Assessment QRIS Development Early Learning Guidelines
California	California State Advisory Council on Early Learning and Care	Department of Education	10	0	Needs Assessment Workforce/Professional Development
Colorado	Colorado Early Childhood Leadership Commission	Governor's Office	35	4	Race to the Top Grant Seamless Services Collaboration. with Department of Education and Department of Human Services
Delaware	Delaware Early Childhood Council	Interagency Resource Management Committee	19	5	Strategic Plan Early Learning Guidelines Kindergarten Readiness Assess. Unified Data System
Hawaii	Hawaii Early Learning Advisory Board	Governor's Office	19	6	Collaboration and Coordination Early Learning Standards Research QRIS

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State	Council Name	Designated State Agency	Members	Committees	Projects Tasked
Idaho	Governor's Early Childhood Coordinating Council	Governor's Office	20	7	Coordinated Collaborative Care Family Access to Support Quality Childcare Social and Emotional Care
Iowa	Iowa Early Childhood Stakeholders Alliance	Iowa Department of Management	300 20 (Steering Committee)	8	Needs Assessment Unified Data Systems Development Public Engagement Early Learning Standards
Kansas	Kansas Early Childhood Advisory Council	Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund	21	2	Assessment of Statewide Collaboration School Readiness Framework
Minnesota	Minnesota Early Learning Council	Minnesota Department of Education	30	5	Early Learning Standards QRIS Unified Data Systems Development Underserved Population
Missouri	Coordinating Board for Early Childhood	Missouri Department of Social Services	17	5	Early Learning Standards Strategic Plan Unified Data Systems Home Visiting

Other States' Structures

State	Council Name	Designated State Agency	Members	Committees	Projects Tasked
Nebraska	Nebraska Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council	Nebraska Department of Education, Head Start Collaboration Office	32	8	Parent Engagement & Public Awareness Unified Data Systems Development
Nevada	Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council	Nevada Department of Public Health and Human Services	14	6	Needs Assessment Kindergarten Readiness Assess. Unified Data Systems Comprehensive EC Plan
New Mexico	New Mexico Early Learning Advisory Council	New Mexico Children, Youth, and Families Department, Child Development Board	15	1 Task Force 1	Early Learning Guidelines & Plans Alignment Data Warehouse Financing
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Board	Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness	32	10	Needs Assessment Quality Workforce Sustainability
Oregon	Oregon Early Learning Council	Governor's Office	18	5	Outcomes Alignment Screening and Readiness Other

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State	Council Name	Designated State Agency	Members	Committees	Projects Tasked
Texas	Texas Early Learning Council	Children's Learning Institute, University of Texas-Houston, Health Science Center	18	4	Needs Assessment Early Learning Standards Alignment of Standards QRIS
Utah	Early Childhood Utah	Utah Department of Health, Bureau of Child Development	18	4	Unified Data Systems Early Learning Standards Increased Development Screening
Washington	Washington Early Learning Advisory Council	Washington Department of Early Learning	23	1	Early Learning Plan Early Learning Standards Kind. Entry Assessment Alignment & Collaboration
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Early Childhood Advisory Council	Wisconsin Department of Children and Families	28	8	Strategic Planning Early Learning Guidelines Health and Screening Assessment Unified Data Systems
Wyoming	Wyoming Early Childhood State Advisory Council	Wyoming Department of Family Services	26	3	Needs Assessment Early Learning Guidelines School Readiness Framework

Future

- The Best Beginnings Advisory Council Charge ends June of 2014
- Future Structure and Organization
- What, Where, Who?



Questions?

